>

Title: Need to establish a new Passport Office in the Central Travancore area of Kerala.

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA (MAVELIKARA): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government, though you, to this important matter.

There are four passport offices functioning in the State of Kerala. They are located in Kozhikode, Kochi, Malappuram and Thiruvanthapuram. The number of emigrants is comparatively higher from the State. A considerable number of people from the areas of Central Travancore are working in European countries, United States of America and Gulf countries. At present, the people from these areas depend mainly on the Kochi Regional Passport Office for getting their passport processed. As the existing facilities at Kochi are inadequate to serve the growing demand there appears to be inordinate delays in issuing passports. Besides, people from these areas face difficulties due to the fact that Kochi is located at long distance from these places.

Hence, a new Passport Office located in the area would help to ease the problem. The Government of Kerala has already sent a request to the Centre in this regard. I urge upon the Government to consider the request and take necessary measures to open a new Passport Office in any of the following towns; Kayamkulam, Mavelikkara, Chengannur and Thiruvala, located in the Central Travancore area of Kerala. Thank you.